

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BANGKO 11124 231200Z
ACTION EA-09

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UNCLAS BANGKOK 11124

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ: THAI MEDIA REACTION - WOLFF NAMES NAMES

USIA FOR IEA, IPS, IBS, IOR/RIM, IOP/M

EDITORIAL MAY 21 IN THAI RATH, THAILAND'S LARGEST-CIRCULATION
NEWSPAPER, DESCRIBES CONGRESSMAN LESTER WOLFF'S NAMING OF SINO-THAI
BUSINESSMEN AS NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS AS "A SHARP SLAP IN THE FACE
FOR (THAI GOVERNMENT) OFFICIALS IN CHARGE OF DRUG SUPPRESSION."
EDIT SAYS THE WOLFF DISCLOSURES ALSO SHOW "HOW WIDESPREAD THE
INFLUENCE OF THESE DRUG TRAFFICKERS IS", AND SUGGESTS THAT
THIS INFLUENCE EVEN EXTENDS TO THAI OFFICIALS THEMSELVES.

WIDESPREAD INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION AND COOPERATION ARE
NECESSARY FOR INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING TO FUNCTION,
EDIT NOTES, AND SAYS THAT THE WOLFF REVELATIONS DO NOT ONLY
"MAKE THAILAND ALONE LOSE FACE, BUT ALSO ADVERSELY AFFECT THE
REPUTATION AND ESPECIALLY THE EFFICIENCY OF ALL CRUG SUPPRESSION
OFFICIALS."

EDIT CONCLUDES, "SINCE THE U.S. KNOWS THE NAMES OF BIG DRUG
TRAFFICKERS AND HAS NOW OPENLY DISCLOSED THEIR NAMES, IF
THEY ARE NOT PROMPTLY ARRESTED AND LEGAL ACTION TAKEN TO PUNISH
THEM, IT WILL SHOW EVEN MORE CLEARLY THAT DRUG SUPPRESSION
OFFICIALS THEMSELVES ARE DELIBERATELY TURNING A BLIND EYE TO DRUG
TRAFFICKING. THAI OFFICIALS MUST PROVE TO THE WHOLE WORLD THAT
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THAILAND AND ALL THE THAI PEOPLE ARE SINCERE IN THE COOPERATION
THEY ARE GIVING TO SUPPRESS AND COMPLETELY ERADICATE THIS GREAT
DANGER TO HUMAN BEINGS, NOT ONLY FOR THE SAKE OF OUR OWN
PEOPLE BUT FOR THE SAKE OF FELLOW HUMAN BEINGS THROUGHOUT
THE WORLD."

EDITORIAL MAY 23 IN SIANG PUANG CHON ECHOES THE THAI RATH

CONTENTION THAT THE WOLFF REMARKS ARE A "SLAP ON THE FACES OF THAI OFFICIALS" AND URGES THE THAI GOVERNMENT TO REPLY TO THE CHARGES. EDIT SAYS, "IF (THE THAI GOVERNMENT) REMAINS SILENT, THE WORLD WILL SIMPLY THINK THAT OUR OFFICIALS ADMIT THE CONGRESSMAN'S ALLEGATION AS TRUE AND THEIR OWN PERFORMANCE AS INEFFICIENT, WHICH IS SHAMEFUL AND DAMAGING."

COLUMNIST MOD KAN FAI, WRITING MAY 21 IN THE MASS CIRCULATION BAN MUANG, ALSO URGES A THAI GOVERNMENT RESPONSE, "BECAUSE THAT STATEMENT IS MOST DAMAGING TO OUR REPUTATION."

WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

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